



• INFO memo - Oct. 17, 2003

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Listen and Learn on City Web Site

It's the middle of October and north winds have already begun to wipe away the memories of hot, muggy summer days. "Falling back" to Central Standard time is only a week away. So there's not really any need to worry about warning sirens sounding throughout Broken Arrow....right?

Well, as the TV commercial states, "not exactly."

During the past several days there have been severe storm warnings in the area and flooding at the intersection of Garnett Road and New Orleans. Mother Nature can be a bad girl at any time of the year.

With that in mind, the City of Broken Arrow web site (www.brokenarrowok.gov) has added a new sight – and sounds – this week. On its page about severe weather preparations (linked to from the "Our Citizens, Public Safety" section), there are photos of warning sirens and audio samples of the sounds for tornado warnings, floods, missile attacks and even the verbal information mode.

"There are many people who still get confused over what the different warning sounds are," said Branon Dodd, Director of Risk Management and Employee Safety for the City. "We have continued to install additional sirens and update our technology, but we wanted to take another step and provide a way for our citizens to hear what the warnings are."

There is also a map on the site showing the location of the City's warning sirens. Silent testing of the equipment is done throughout the year, with audible testing beginning in the spring, said Dodd, who is also one of the City's Emergency Management directors.

More Web Site Additions...

With the cooperation of the Broken Arrow Police Department, a valuable asset has been added to the City's web site (www.brokenarrowok.gov). There is now a

direct link from the “Our Citizens” index page to a listing of resource agencies that are available in the community to help families and individuals.

And from that page (as well as from others in the site) there is a link to a list of phone numbers for public safety, including most emergency numbers – even those for utility companies.

Another new feature on the web site is a copy of the form which must be filled out and returned to the City Clerk by those wishing to speak before the City Council. The form can be printed out, filled in and brought or mailed to City Hall or it can be filled out on your computer and e-mailed directly to the City Clerk’s office.

The web site was redesigned over the past year and debuted this past June. In September, records of the web site server showed over 1 million hits.

Chief Wuestewald, BA Cops Help Special Olympics

Cops and donut shops...they just seem to go together, especially in TV shows and the movies.

Friday Broken Arrow Police Chief Todd Wuestewald joined other members of the department and police officers from Tulsa in raising funds for the Special Olympics by sitting atop the Krispy Kreme Doughnut shop in Tulsa from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., and also handing out tattoo patches and badges.

Wuestewald had “backup support” from Major Norm Stephens, who was going to take the shift from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Detective Scott Bross and Officer Chris Chambers were due to be on hand to help hand out items.

Radar, the BAPD’s robotic police car, will also be doing its thing at the event. There will be other police officers from the area on the billboard at Krispy Kreme on Saturday (5:30 a.m. to 12 midnight) and Sunday (4:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.). Donations to the Special Olympics will get the givers free donuts and coffee, a tee shirt (numbers are limited) and other gifts.

Also participating are police from Bixby, the Tulsa County Sheriff’s Office and the Oklahoma Highway Patrol.

City Staff Prepare for Chamber Retreat

Acting City Manager Gary Blackford and several City Staff members will be headed for Tahlequah Thursday to attend the 2003 Chamber of Commerce Retreat at Heart O’ the Hills Conference Center.

The Retreats bring together representatives from City government, Broken Arrow and Union public schools, area colleges and universities, business leaders and citizens interested in helping shape Broken Arrow’s future.

Previous Retreats have helped spark efforts which led to the Northeastern State University branch campus in BA, the South Loop, and several other community projects and programs.

One of the projects which is discussed at each of the Retreats but has not yet become a reality is a Performing Arts Center for the city. That is expected to be a major topic again next week (Oct. 23-24) as BA Superintendent of Schools Jim

Sisney has revealed preliminary plans for building such a facility at the site currently occupied by the Education Service Center.

Both the City and the school system will go to the voters with bond issues next year. Committees will be named by the City Council at its Monday night meeting to begin work on designing the list of proposals for an April bond issue.

Movie Screening Benefits Youth Center

A private screening of the movie "Radio" will be available Tuesday, Nov. 4, for \$25 per person, with funds going to the Broken Arrow Youth Center and its drive to furnish and staff the facility when it opens next year.

The Movie Premier Party will be held at the Cinema 8 Theater in Broken arrow. There will be prizes from local merchants, as well as hors d'oeuvres. Attire is "Sunday best." The movie is rated PG-13, but is also subject to change. The party will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The Broken Arrow Optimist Club has been a driving force behind the construction of the Youth/Community Center at Nienhuis Park. Construction of the building is currently underway.

Levels of giving start with one ticket for \$25; Director level with two tickets at \$250; Producer level at \$500 with four tickets; and Star level at \$1,000 with eight tickets. The donations are tax deductible.

For more information contact the BA Youth Center Foundation, 23575 Lamb Terrace, Broken Arrow, OK 74014, by Oct. 31.

The Mission Statement for the Center is: "To provide a safe facility where Broken Arrow Youth can have fun, discover productive use of their leisure time through involvement in age-appropriate activities, and develop life skills through interaction with caring peers and adults in a positive environment."

United Way Golf Tourney Openings Available

A benefit golf tournament being put together by City employees as part of their United Way campaign is now open to those other than City employees, said campaign director Tom Caldwell Friday.

The tournament will be held Nov. 11 at Battle Creek Golf and will be a four-player shotgun format. Cost is \$50 per person, which is non-refundable after Oct. 30. Tee-off will be at 9 a.m. Of the entry fee, \$25 will go to the City's United Way drive.

City employees have been given first choice at signups until Oct. 17. Open slots can now be filled with non-city employees on a first-submitted basis. Mulligans will be available on the day of the tournament for \$5.

You may submit an entire team, or register as an individual and placed on a team.

For information, or to register, contact Caldwell at the Finance Department in City Hall, or by phone at 259-8411.

Members of the United Way committee have also been rounding up hole sponsors for the tournament at \$100 each.

